**Everyone Counts 2025: Nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Enumeration of Homelessness**

The use of this tool is notmandatory. Please customize it to suit your local approach. It is intended to be used in conjunction with the Unsheltered Enumeration Sheet. Instructions on using the tool are below.

# Unsheltered Enumeration Screening Tool

*Customizing this tool*

This tool is meant to serve as a customizable template for your community’s screening tool. Please edit it to include your community’s name and to reflect the time period(s) that you are carrying out the unsheltered enumeration. If your community plans to include health and correctional systems in the enumeration (which is optional), you will need to ask the follow-up question C1 to respondents who answer e., f., or g.. If your community is *not* including health and correctional systems, please delete question C1. Please be sure to review and edit the instructions for each response option to reflect your community’s approach on inclusion of observed homelessness and health and corrections.

*Using this tool*

The screening tool includes the Enumeration screening questions. It provides a script for the enumerator to follow, including obtaining the individual’s consent to participate. If the person being surveyed provides a response that indicates that they are experiencing unsheltered homelessness, the surveyor records that response on the Enumeration Sheet.

* Respondents that indicate **c.** (Someone else’s place) or **d.** (Motel/hotel self funded) may be experiencing hidden homelessness, which is not possible to enumerate using the PiT methodology. In the future, estimates of hidden homelessness are expected to be available through homelessness questions on the 2026 Census.
* Respondents that indicate **e.** (hospital), **f.** (treatment centre), or **g.** (jail, prison, remand centre), require follow-up with question C1 if your community is including systems homelessness beyond administrative data. If not including systems homelessness, thank and end survey.
* Respondents that indicate **h.** (homeless shelter), **i.** (hotel/motel funded by city or homeless program), or **j.** (transitional shelter/housing) are not recorded on the unsheltered enumeration sheet. Although they are experiencing homelessness, they will be enumerated through administrative data at the location where they are spending the night.

**UNSHELTERED ENUMERATION SCREENING TOOL**

Hello, my name is and I’m a volunteer for the **(*Community Name*) homelessness and housing needs study**.

1. **Have you already spoken to someone tonight (*/last night/this morning)* with this (*identification e.g., button)*?**

**[YES: Thank and end] [NO: Continue script]**

We are working to measure recent changes in the population experiencing homelessness in our community. This should only take about 1 minute to complete. **Participation is voluntary** and **your name will not be recorded**. Results will contribute to the understanding of how homelessness is changing across Canada, and will help to support programs and services that prevent and end homelessness.

1. **Are you willing to answer a brief question about housing and homelessness in our community?**

**[YES: Go to C] [YES: Go to C] [NO: Thank and record on enumeration sheet, if applicable]**

1. **Where are you staying tonight? (/*Where did you stay last night?*) (DO NOT READ CATEGORIES) (Circle appropriate letter)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. DECLINE TO ANSWER | **[THANK and record on enumeration sheet *if* community is including observed homelessness and surveyor believes individual is experiencing homelessness.]** |
| 1. OWN APARTMENT / HOUSE   **[THANK and END SURVEY]**   1. SOMEONE ELSE’S PLACE 2. MOTEL / HOTEL (SELF FUNDED)   **[Continue to C1 if including systems. Otherwise THANK and END SURVEY]**   1. HOSPITAL 2. TREATMENT CENTRE 3. JAIL, PRISON, REMAND CENTRE 4. HOMELESS SHELTER (e.g. emergency, family or domestic violence shelter,   **[THANK and END SURVEY]**  warming centre, drop-in)   1. HOTEL / MOTEL FUNDED BY CITY OR HOMELESS PROGRAM 2. TRANSITIONAL SHELTER/HOUSING 3. UNSHELTERED IN A PUBLIC SPACE (e.g. street, park, bus shelter, forest or   **[THANK, RECORD, and END SURVEY]**  abandoned building)   1. ENCAMPMENT (e.g. group of tents, makeshift shelters or other long-term   outdoor settlement)   1. VEHICLE (e.g. car, van, recreational vehicle (RV), truck, boat)   **[Proceed with instructions for probable location response]**   1. UNSURE: INDICATE PROBABLE LOCATION (b. – m.) | |

**C1. Do you have access to a permanent residence where you can safely stay as long as you want?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. YES 2. NO 3. DON’T KNOW 4. DECLINE TO ANSWER | **[THANK and END SURVEY**  **[THANK, RECORD, and END SURVEY ]** |

Thank you for agreeing to take part in this survey.